



# DOLMA FOUNDATION The Netherlands

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Spring 2016 Newsletter and Annual Financial Report

# € 2.000.000!

(At the actual exchange rate 1.560 lakh)

We begin this newsletter with a wonderful milestone: in December we received our 2 millionth Euro in donations! This is an enormous amount, especially when converted into Indian Rupees. A great deal can be achieved there with this much money. Thanks to your continuing support through all these years, our foundation has helped many people and achieved many wonderful things.

In the beginning, most of the money went towards supporting the monks, and this has gradually shifted to supporting the lay people in the camps. The monasteries were able to develop well with the many donations they received from both eastern and western countries. Even though they definitely support the lay people, it is here that there is still a large deficit in health and welfare. It is still very hard for the ordinary Tibetan to be officially employed or to start a business. If one remains strong and healthy it is possible to have a reasonably good life, but those who are not healthy or find themselves in a difficult situation still need help from outside. This situation will not change for the time being and we hope that with your help we can continue doing this for as long as is necessary.

And where have we been able to contribute in the past 6 months? At the end of 2017, together with a French sister organisation, we enabled the installation of a good water supply in the boarding facilities of the central school in Kalimpong. Pipelines were laid and taps installed to create a decent washing facility. Children no longer have to walk to the end of the town to wash themselves and their clothes in the public washing facilities. That was a very inconvenient and potentially dangerous situation, especially for the younger girls. Our contribution to this project was € 6.730.

And yes, one thing leads to another. During the winter we received a request to contribute to the purchase of a large solar water heater to bring the water to a decent temperature. In those mountain regions it can be quite cold in the winter for long periods, and it is easy to understand the desire for warm water. Once again we collaborated with our French colleagues to start the project. At the end there was still a shortfall in the budget of €528, which we could meet thanks to a large unexpected donation. Thank you very much for this! How wonderful it is that a few hundred children can open the tap in winter to benefit from water at a reasonable temperature.



*The heat of the sun is converted into heat for the children!*

After we had donated a new water filter to the Sarah school in Dharamsala for the girls' dormitory last autumn, we have now also donated one for the boys' section. This ensures that all the students now have access to safe drinking water. It is obvious that this is very important for their health. The cost was € 2.200.

The renovation of the central boarding school in Mundgod was a very large project. This school has existed for nearly 50 years and until recently the management and maintenance of the school was the responsibility of the Indian Government. Unfortunately the maintenance was badly neglected. The Tibetans themselves have made small repairs with help from outside. Dolma has also made considerable contributions, such as the construction of a large water tower. A year ago the management of the school was handed over to the Tibetan administration. This is naturally a good development as it is useful to have all important institutions under one's own control. But suddenly a great many problems came to light: lack of a transformer for electricity, broken toilet doors, broken water pipes and electrical wiring, a water filter that no longer worked as a result of neglected maintenance, a gate to the boys' dormitory that no longer functioned, and the absence of an overhanging shelter against rain and sun for the girls' dormitory.



We received a long list, and everything on the list could be replaced or repaired for an amount of € 10.009. This is a long term investment as the Tibetans themselves are now responsible for maintenance. A small part of this amount was donated by an Indian organisation. We are happy that we could pay the rest from our reserves and a large donation. This has solved the most urgent problems.

This year we again contributed to the 'winter school'. For many years now the combined monasteries have organised this for youngsters who cannot go home during the long winter vacations. About 40 youngsters from all parts of India came together to enjoy conversations and each other's company. They were also given lessons in the Tibetan language and Buddhism. They too have the feeling of 'being home' and we are happy to support this.

After much fuss was made about the placement of a public toilet building in central camp 3, agreement has now been reached and the construction is well advanced. We have transferred the last part of our contribution and expect that the construction will soon be completed.

## Nomads in Need



We always enjoy showing you happy photos. But here is a very sad situation. This is a photo from Ladakh, the northernmost part of India, where there are still families living as nomads. As the result of a very heavy winter in the Himalayas, much of their livestock has died of cold and lack of food on account of the thick layer of snow. We received an urgent request from the Tibetan Administration to help these nomads. We were able to transfer € 1.300 and we are sure that this will be gratefully used for the purchase of new livestock and feed, so that they again have an income.

*All these unplanned expenses have made a large hole in the reserves we had at the end of last year, and not much is left of that. Fortunately we have no urgent requests at the moment, but as soon as these come in we hope that our reserves will again be filled by your donations.*

We once again helped with medical expenses for an ear operation, a broken hip, diabetes, and throat cancer, among others. Your donations provide some relief from pain and worry.

We received a request to sponsor Lobsang Dickey. She is a nun in her fifties. When she was young she fled from Tibet to India and entered a nunnery there. She has completed her studies. She has no family in India and has no-one she can depend on. She has recently undergone surgery for throat cancer, is very weak and has difficulty eating. We have made a contribution from our medical 'kitty', but she actually needs to be sponsored. She definitely needs the sum of £25 per month. Would you commit yourself to this for the next 3 years?



In our previous newsletter we informed you about the Tibetan Women Association.



This unites the large majority of adult Tibetan women. They come together in a kind of club house both for their small local meetings and large national ones. Up to now they had no toilet at this club house and the women had to go outside to relieve themselves. We saw the importance of a good toilet facility and contributed to the budget. They had already raised half of the costs themselves, and we contributed the remaining E2000. We received a letter expressing their thanks, and with more information about their activities. We would like to share this letter with you.



*The toilets under construction.*



*The management: strong and beautiful.*

Every year they organise a joint prayer service to pray for long life for the Dalai Lama, and on the birthday of the Dalai Lama they organise a cultural programme with both Tibetan dances and dances of Hindu origin. To raise money they make and sell traditional snacks, and this also helps to preserve the Tibetan culture. On the day of saving animals (Soklu) a group of them travel to the coast to buy all the fish that are still alive from the local fish market to release them back in the sea.

On 23 April they participated in the national March for Peace organised for the 30<sup>th</sup> birthday of the 11<sup>th</sup> Panchen Lama. He was imprisoned by the Chinese when he was 6 years old. One hopes that he is still alive. 30 women from the Mundgod branch of the Association marched along on the 145km trail.

A new project they are developing is to give sewing lessons. Many Tibetan women leave their homes in the winter months to sell clothing on the streets of distant cities. The idea is that by teaching them to sew they can earn a living in their own homes and communities and so to become more independent.

All this helps to bring Tibetan women together and to unite them. This letter was very informative and on my next visit to Mundgod I will visit them and learn more about them. Women are a strong force in the community and that can be seen all over the world!

A letter like this gives us additional inspiration to continue to invest ourselves, with your help. We are hoping for a future with more harmony and balance in many aspects.

On behalf of the management, I wish you a good summer!

Tashi Delek!

*Franz de Reeper*

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DOLMA FOUNDATION		overview 2018		
Contributions		2018		2017
donations and sponsor contributions		€ 29.755,11		
from donation agreements		€ 17.172,00		
<b>Individual donations</b>	+ -----	<b>€ 46.927,11</b>		€ 45.222,50
Sale of books etc.	€ 2.588,55			
Broeders Joannes de Deo	€ 500,00			
Het Consultancyhuis	€ 11.920,00			
Mani Bhadra B.V.	€ 300,00			
Putoshan	€ 360,00			
Rebuild your Life	€ 60,00			
Reis-dee	€ 231,21			
Stichting Humavi	€ 3.700,00			
Stichting Kalsang	€ 120,00			
Stichting Zen.nl Nederland	€ 1.200,00			
<b>Donations from legal entities</b>	+ -----	<b>€ 20.979,76</b>		€ 15.062,42
<b>Interest</b>		€ 11,77		€ 174,19
<b>Total Income</b>		+ -----	<b>€ 67.918,64</b>	€ 60.459,11
<b>Expenditures</b>				
individual sponsorship	€ 31.351,62			
bank costs sponsorhip	€ 635,80			
	+ -----	<b>€ 31.987,42</b>		€ 29.007,83
<i>projects</i>				
medical help*	€ 5.600,00			
scholarships*	€ 2.228,00			
improvement of roof old age home	€ 905,00			
new computer etc. old age home	€ 1.047,00			
school near monastery Tibet	€ 2.000,00			
security workshop agric. coop.	€ 45,00			
training workshop agric. coop.	€ 2.898,00			
renovation floor workshop agric. coop.	€ 3.145,00			
new water pump camp 2	€ 1.250,00			
public toilet camp 3	€ 3.189,00			
costs sending clothing	€ 209,20			
Sarah school new water filter c.a.	€ 2.325,00			
readers English lessons (Lotus Readers)	€ 282,00			
Drepung Loseling reprint book	€ 2.300,00			
Sambotha School c3: 4 computers	€ 1.500,00			
solar water heater CST Kalimpong	€ 1.692,00			
Toilet Tibetan Women Association	€ 1.880,00			
Toilet Gedun Choephel c.s.	€ 915,00			
	+ -----	<b>€ 33.410,20</b>		€ 32.882,45
bank costs projects	€ 238,40			
travel expenses project visits 2018	€ 591,00			
	+ -----	<b>€ 829,40</b>		
<i>general</i>				
travel costs management	€ 214,32			
secretarial costs	€ 150,84			
postage costs	€ 484,70			
printing	€ 313,69			
telephone/internet/security	€ 259,00			
general bank costs	€ 299,88			
	+ -----	<b>€ 1.722,43</b>		€ 1.545,00
<b>Total expenditures</b>		+ -----	<b>€ 67.949,45</b>	€ 63.235,28
<b>Balance end 2018</b>			<b>€ 33.934,33</b>	€ 33.965,14

\*This project will continue into 2019